

# **Planning Assistance to States**

## **Section 22, Water Resources Development Act of 1974**

### **Authority and Scope**

Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1974, as amended, provides authority for the Corps of Engineers to assist individual states, local governments, and other non-federal entities in the preparation of comprehensive plans for the development, use, and conservation of water and related land resources.

### **Funding**

The Planning Assistance to States (Section 22) Program is funded annually by Congress. Federal allotments for each state or tribe from the nationwide appropriation are limited to \$500,000 annually, but typically are much less. Individual studies, of which there may be more than one per state or tribe per year, generally cost \$125,000. Studies are cost shared with 50 percent of the costs furnished by a local sponsor and 50 percent by the Corps. Implementation of any recommendations is the responsibility of the local sponsor.

### **Program Development**

Planning assistance is determined by the individual state. Every year, each state gives the Corps of Engineers its request for studies under the program. The Corps District then accommodates as many studies as possible within the funding allotment. Typical studies are planning level of detail; they do not include detailed design for project construction. The studies involve the analysis of existing data for planning purposes using standard engineering techniques. Most studies become the basis for state and local planning decisions. Although the studies are planning level products, they do provide communities with the technical data and analysis needed to either prepare plans and specifications for implementation or request implementation funds.

### **Typical Studies**

The program can encompass many types of studies dealing with water resources issues. Studies conducted in recent years include water supply, water quality, water conservation, hydropower development, flood control, environmental restoration, erosion, and navigation.

### **How to Request Assistance**

The first step in the process is to express your interest in the Section 22 Program by providing a written request to both the state coordinator and the Corps' program coordinator. A brief description of the problems and concerns will be requested at that time. A meeting will be scheduled to explore your concerns in more detail and to initiate the preparation of a plan of study (POS) and cost estimate. Once all parties agree on the POS and costs, a Letter of Agreement would be signed between the local sponsor and the Corps. The study would be initiated upon receipt of the funding. Early coordination with both the state coordinator and the Corps' program manager is encouraged to meet your needs as soon as possible.

**Points of Contact:**

**Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers:**

Section 22 Coordinator  
Baltimore District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
ATTN: CENAB-PL-E  
P.O. Box 1715  
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715.

**District of Columbia:**

Chief  
Environmental Policy Division  
Office of Policy and Planning  
Department of Public Works  
2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009

**Maryland:**

Chief  
Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Division  
Water Management Administration  
Maryland Department of the Environment  
2500 Broening Highway  
Baltimore, MD 21224

**New York:**

Director  
Division of Water  
New York Department of  
Environmental Conservation  
50 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12233-1011

**Pennsylvania:**

Chief  
Division of Water Use Planning  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
Rachel Carson State Office Building  
P.O. Box 2063

Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

**Virginia:**

Chief  
Floodplain Programs  
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation  
203 Governor Street  
Richmond, VA 23219-2010

**West Virginia:**

Director  
Planning Branch  
Division of Water Resources  
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources  
State Capitol Complex, Building 3  
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